

Spring 1-15-2002

## ENG 3807-001: Victorian Literature

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## English 3807: Victorian Literature Spring 2002

### Course Description & Policies

Professor R. L. Beebe  
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Office Hours: M, W 10-11; 1:15-2:15  
Thurs. 10-11:30 & by appointment

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### Texts

- Collins & Rundle, *Broadview Anthology of Victorian Poetry*
- Charlotte Bronte, *Jane Eyre*
- Wilkie Collins, *The Woman in White*
- Charles Dickens, *Hard Times*
- George Eliot, *The Mill on the Floss*
- Thomas Hardy, *Jude the Obscure*
- Bram Stoker, *Dracula*

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### Requirements.

- |                                    |                |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| • Three 3-5 page papers (3 novels) | 30% (each 10%) |
| • 1 Poetry Paper (3-5 pages)       | 10%            |
| • 1 Final Paper (6-10 pages)       | 20%            |
| • Final Exam (comprehensive)       | 15%            |
| • Brief Writings/Quizzes           | 10%            |
| • Participation                    | 15%            |

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**Course Participation.** This is not a lecture course. The format of the course and its overall success depend upon your active and informed contributions. The response papers and the group report will allow you a couple of "formal" ways to guide and participate in class discussion. But since this class will cover material that most of you will be reading for the first time, I expect that you will come to class with lots of questions. Note that 15% alone of your final grade will be determined by your participation in class discussions.

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**Papers.** You will write three (3-5 page) papers (each paper on one of the six novels we'll be reading) and one final paper of approximately 6-10 pages, in which you will work with at least two of the novels. You will choose which three novels you want to write papers on. About midway through our discussion of a novel, I will hand out a list of suggested topics for the paper, although you're free to develop your own topic as well. Each paper is due one week after we finish discussing the novel--something I'll remind you about in class.

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**Revisions.** You may revise your papers. In fact, I highly encourage it. However, you MUST speak

with me prior to handing in the revision—otherwise I won't accept the revision.

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**Late Papers.** Papers are due on the dates indicated. Papers turned in after the due date will be penalized one-third of a grade for each calendar day they are late—unless you have already made arrangements with me prior to the due date. Although I encourage you to turn in your paper in class, you have until 4:30 p.m. on the due date to hand in your paper (either to me in my office or in my mailbox, 308 Coleman). In other words, I want you to be in class that day whether or not you have your paper fully completed.

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**Response Papers.** To help focus class discussion, I will frequently give a study question or two for an upcoming reading assignment, and I will ask the class to prepare written responses that will be read in class and also turned in. These responses should be 1 typed page in length and should take only a few minutes to read. The questions will usually be specific, so the responses need to be equally specific and detailed. In other words, get to the point quickly and argue vigorously.

I will not evaluate these short papers in the same way I will your major papers. I'm more concerned that you are honestly trying to answer the question—at least struggle with it—than in your overall organization, sentence structure, and other stylistic issues that you will need to worry about in the longer, more polished papers. I will, however, assign a grade of either "Excellent," "Satisfactory" or "Unsatisfactory" on the response papers. Excellent papers respond clearly and cogently to the question and develop a well-argued position (excellent responses receive 100% credit). Satisfactory responses make a genuine effort to answer the question and show that you have read the text and thought about the issue carefully (satisfactory responses receive 75% credit). Unsatisfactory responses are those that are either too brief to have competently developed an answer—even though the response may have answered the question—or are way off task or irrelevant (unsatisfactory responses receive no credit).

**\*\* Response papers cannot be made up or turned in after class.\*\*** You must have a hard copy in class. Papers turned in late or not at all are automatically "Unsatisfactory." If you know you will not be in class to turn yours in, turn it into to me early or make arrangements to have someone else turn it in for you.

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**Attendance Policy.** You need to be in class all the time. I generally allow up to three absences, whether excused or unexcused. Each absence after that will lower your final grade one full grade (if your calculated final grade is a B, for instance, and you have four absences, you will receive a C for the course). Seven or more absences will result in an automatic failing grade.

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**Students with Disabilities.** If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

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**Electronic Writing Portfolio.** English 3807 is a writing-intensive course. Depending on when you first attended EIU, you may want (or need) to use a writing sample from this course as a submission to your Electronic Writing Portfolio (EWP).

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Reading Schedule (Note: This schedule is subject to change. Please check online reading schedule for any changes – <http://www.eiu.edu/~literary/3807/>)

**Week 1**

JAN	7	Intro to course
	9	Intro to course
	11	Dickens, <i>Hard Times</i>

**Week 2**

	14	<i>Hard Times</i>
	16	<i>Hard Times</i>
	18	<i>Hard Times</i>

**Week 3**

	21	<b>** King's Birthday – No Class **</b>
	23	Tennyson
	25	Tennyson

**Week 4**

	28	Tennyson
	30	Bronte, <i>Jane Eyre</i>
FEB	1	<i>Jane Eyre</i>

**Week 5**

	4	<i>Jane Eyre</i>
	6	<i>Jane Eyre</i>
	8	<b>** Lincoln's Birthday – No Class **</b>

**Week 6**

	11	Eliot, <i>The Mill on the Floss</i>
	13	<i>The Mill on the Floss</i>
	15	<i>The Mill on the Floss</i>

**Week 7**

	18	<i>The Mill on the Floss</i>
	20	Browning
	22	Browning

**Week 8**

	25	Browning
	27	open

MARCH	1	open
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**Week 9**

	4	open
	6	open
	8	open

**SPRING BREAK****Week 10**

MARCH	18	Collins, <i>The Woman in White</i>
	20	<i>The Woman in White</i>
	22	<i>The Woman in White</i>

**Week 11**

	25	Arnold
	27	Arnold
	29	Arnold

**Week 12**

APRIL	1	Stoker, <i>Dracula</i>
	3	<i>Dracula</i>
	5	<i>Dracula</i>

**Week 13**

	8	<i>Dracula</i>
	10	Pre-Raphaelites
	12	Pre-Raphaelites

**Week 14**

	15	Pre-Raphaelites
	17	Hardy, <i>Jude the Obscure</i>
	19	<i>Jude the Obscure</i>

**Week 15**

	22	<i>Jude the Obscure</i>
	24	Review for Final Exam
	26	Review for Final Exam